



My Name Is Mina

By David Almond



My Name Is Mina By David Almond

Award-winning author David Almond reintroduces readers to the perceptive, sensitive Mina before the events of *Skellig* in this lyrical and fantastical work. *My Name is Mina* is not only a pleasure to read, it is an intimate and enlightening look at a character whose open mind and heart have much to teach us about life, love, and the mysteries that surround us.

Mina loves the night. While everyone else is in a deep slumber, she gazes out the window, witness to the moon's silvery light. In the stillness, she can even hear her own heart beating. This is when Mina feels that anything is possible and her imagination is set free.

A blank notebook lies on the table. It has been there for what seems like forever. Mina has proclaimed in the past that she will use it as a journal, and one night, at last, she begins to do just that. As she writes, Mina makes discoveries both trivial and profound about herself and her world, her thoughts and her dreams.

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Editorial Review

Review

Starred Review, Publishers Weekly, August 15, 2011:

"Almond gives readers a vivid picture of the joyfully free-form workings of Mina's mind and her mixed emotions about being an isolated child. Her gradual emergence from the protective shell of home is beautifully portrayed as she gingerly ventures out into the world. Not as dark, but just as passionate as Almond's previous works, this novel will inspire children to let their imaginations soar."

Starred Review, Booklist, September 15, 2011:

Almond is rather brave to have written a prequel to *Skellig* (1998), a book that was the essence of originality. So many things could have gone wrong. But he is too shrewd—and fine—a writer to let that happen. This is the story of Mina, the girl next door who, in *Skellig*, helped Michael cope with the man he found in his garage eating dead flies and growing wings. Who was Mina before Michael arrived? Form as well as language bring Mina alive. Her journal introduces us to this authoritative, imaginative, irascible child, and her entries appear in her childlike penmanship; the print is big and bold when she finds a word she loves ("METEMPSYCHOSIS!"), and she uses concrete poetry as she plays with language and thoughts. And what thoughts! Mina is homeschooled, because, well, because she's Mina, and she needs expanses of time to think about myths and mathematics. She dreams of her dead father and wonders, wonders, wonders about birds. It is the birds that will lead readers into *Skellig*—that, and glimpses of Michael and his family moving next door. This book stands very much alone, but the sense of wonder that pervades the smallest details of everyday life remains familiar.

— *Ilene Cooper*

The New York Times Book Review, October 16, 2011:

"Mina is a perceptive, fiercely curious, and defiant but sensitive girl who will surely prove a heroine for many."

"Almond's singular gifts--the hypnotic quality of the prose, the ethereal connection between the mundane and the magical, and the character study of a fiercely intelligent, fiercely independent young girl--triumph over it all."--*The Horn Book Magazine*

From the Hardcover edition.

About the Author

DAVID ALMOND grew up in a large family in northeastern England and says, "The place and the people have given me many of my stories." His first novel for children, *Skellig*, was a Michael L. Printz Honor Book and an ALA-ALSC Notable Children's Book and appeared on many best book of the year lists. His

second novel, *Kit's Wilderness*, won the Michael L. Printz Award for Excellence in Young Adult Literature.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Kevin Roark:

Have you spare time for the day? What do you do when you have more or little spare time? Yeah, you can choose the suitable activity with regard to spend your time. Any person spent their particular spare time to take a walk, shopping, or went to the actual Mall. How about open or even read a book titled My Name Is Mina? Maybe it is for being best activity for you. You already know beside you can spend your time along with your favorite's book, you can more intelligent than before. Do you agree with it has the opinion or you have other opinion?

Jodie Jennings:

Book is to be different per grade. Book for children until eventually adult are different content. We all know that that book is very important for people. The book My Name Is Mina was making you to know about other understanding and of course you can take more information. It is extremely advantages for you. The book My Name Is Mina is not only giving you more new information but also being your friend when you sense bored. You can spend your own personal spend time to read your reserve. Try to make relationship with the book My Name Is Mina. You never feel lose out for everything in the event you read some books.

James Sirois:

Playing with family in the park, coming to see the sea world or hanging out with buddies is thing that usually you could have done when you have spare time, then why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. A single activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition info. Even you love My Name Is Mina, you may enjoy both. It is very good combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh can occur its mind hangout folks. What? Still don't understand it, oh come on its named reading friends.

Heather Vazquez:

With this era which is the greater individual or who has ability to do something more are more valuable than other. Do you want to become certainly one of it? It is just simple approach to have that. What you need to do is just spending your time not very much but quite enough to have a look at some books. One of many books in the top collection in your reading list is My Name Is Mina. This book which is qualified as The Hungry Hillside can get you closer in getting precious person. By looking upward and review this book you can get many advantages.

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